

**Summer 2015 Recommended Reading List  
Rising Third Grade  
2015-2016**

**Non-Fiction Books**

**Bishop, Nic. *Backyard Detective: Critters Up Close***

Welcome to the fascinating world of your own backyard, where more than 125 bugs, worms, and small critters play out the drama of life.

**Bredeson, Carmen. *Weird But True Rocks***

Learn about different types of rocks, such as lava bombs, geodes, hoodoos, and moon rocks.

**Bunting, Eve. *The Cart that Carried Martin***

This unique retelling of Martin Luther King Jr.'s funeral focuses on the wooden cart used to transport his coffin through the streets of Atlanta, Georgia. It is the story of Dr. King's life as well as his funeral procession, and of what it meant to all the onlookers.

**Cleary, Brian. *How Long or How Wide? A Measuring Guide***

A rhyming text filled with funny examples explains how to use and compare metric and U.S. customary units of length.

**Dant, Traci. *Some Kind of Love: A Family Reunion in Poems***

15 poems describe the joy of one African-American family's annual reunion weekend.

**Gay, Mary-Louise. *Any Questions?***

The author answers many of the questions she receives from children on writing, including where she gets her ideas, how she learned to draw, and how many books she can write in one day.

**Jenkins, Emily. *Lemonade in Winter: A Book about Two Kids Counting Money***

Pauline and her brother John-John set up a stand to sell lemonade, limeade, and lemon-limeade one cold, wintry day, then try to attract customers as Pauline adds up their earnings.

**Jenkins, Steve. *Prehistoric Actual Size***

What is it like to come face-to-face with the ten-foot-tall terror bird? Or stare into the mouth of the largest meat eater ever to walk the earth? Find out in this book that features illustrated large-sized prehistoric creatures, focusing on their physical characteristics and eating behaviors.

**Murphy, Stuart. *Captain Invincible and the Space Shapes***

While piloting his spaceship through the skies, Captain Invincible encounters three-dimensional shapes, including cubes, cylinders, and pyramids.

**Noble, Trina Hakes. *The Legend of Michigan***

An old warrior and a young boy travel through the frigid cold of the north to teach the fierce North Wind how to live peacefully with his brothers, allowing the formerly uninhabitable land of Michigan to be settled.

**Rabinowitz, Alan. *A Boy and a Jaguar***

This picture book autobiography of a wildlife conservationist shares how he struggled with stuttering as a child but overcame his challenges to become an advocate for animals.

**Willey, Margaret. *Clever Beatrice: An Upper Peninsula Conte***

In this tall tale from Michigan's Upper Peninsula, a small but clever young girl outwits a rich giant and wins all his gold.

## Fiction Books

**Barber, Barbara E. *Allie's Basketball Dream***

Allie's determination and infectious optimism are sure to reach young readers, as *Allie's Basketball Dream* teaches gentle lessons about the rewards of perseverance.

**DiCamillo, Kate. *Bink and Gollie***

Two roller-skating best friends share three comical adventures involving outrageously bright socks, an impromptu trek to the Andes, and a most unlikely marvelous companion.

**Fleming, Candace. *Papa's Mechanical Fish***

When he takes his family fishing on Lake Michigan, his daughter Virena asks, "Have you ever wondered what it's like to be a fish?" With a lot of persistence and a little bit of help, Papa, based on a real-life inventor, creates a submarine that can take his family for a trip to the bottom of Lake Michigan.

**Godin, Thelma Lynne. *The Hula-Hoopin' Queen***

Kameeka yearns to continue her hula hooping competition with her rival, Jamara, rather than help prepare for Miz Adeline's birthday party, and "the itch" almost ruins the party before the girls learn who the real winner is.

**Green, D. L. *Zeke Meeks vs. the Putrid Puppet Pals***

All the children in the third grade except Zeke Meeks are playing with the newest fad, Puppet Pals finger puppets.

**Jules, Jacqueline. *Zapato Power: Freddie Ramos Springs into Action***

When a very important inventor needs rescuing, Freddie Ramos activates his special sneakers and becomes a superhero.

**Lester, Julius. *Black Cowboy, Wild Horses***

Based on true accounts by Bob Lemmons, a former slave, "Black Cowboy, Wild Horses" chronicles Lemmons' adventures as he tracks wild horses across the plains.

**Maddox, Jake. *Point Guard Prank***

Somebody is playing nasty tricks on Ryan DeMoss, point guard for the Hillcrest Hammers, and it is starting to interfere with his game right before the big tournament.

**McDonald, Megan. *Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer***

Judy's big plans for the summer seem ruined when two of her best friends go away. Then her parents leave her and Stink with Aunt Opal, but a new "thrill-a-delic" plan has her racing toward fun.

**Spinelli, Jerry. *Third Grade Angels***

George 'Suds' Morton competes with his third-grade classmates to earn the first 'halo' of the year for good behavior, but being good turns out to be more stressful than he anticipated.

**Stilton, Thea. *Thea Stilton and the Great Tulip Heist***

Attending an art class in the Netherlands, Violet journeys through the flower gardens, windmills and canals of Holland to investigate the untimely disappearance of her friend's father, a renowned botanist whose absence is linked to a rare black tulip.

**Woodson, Jacqueline. *This is the Rope: A Story from the Great Migration***

A rope passed down through the generations frames an African American family's story as they journey north during the time of the Great Migration.

**Yee, Herbert Wong. *Mouse and Mole: Fine Feathered Friends***

When spring arrives, Mole and Mouse find a unique way to bird watch.